



Towns County Herald's Sporting News



Highlights from the Miss GMF Pageant

JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

It all began well before the on-stage performances. The nine 2009 contestants vying for the Miss Georgia Mountain Fair title arrived in Hiwassee for orientation on Sunday prior to the opening of the 59th Georgia Mountain Fair. Pageant rules, conduct and expectations were explained by Director, Lisa Bryant. The Towns County Lions Club sponsors the annual pageant and participants represent their club. The eventual winner moves on to the Miss Fairest of the Fairs Pageant in Atlanta.

On Sunday prior to the actual pageant, hours are spent on stage rehearsing the entry, opening dance routine and procedures for the pageant. By now the girls have become close friends after having walked the fairgrounds for several hours on Saturday, meeting and greeting visitors to the fair. After a ride in the annual parade and a meal in the trout booth, the girls begin to think of their first encounter with the judges. Sunday before the pageant, the contestants individually face their interview with the judges. This interview counts for 30% of their score since the winner of the pageant is a spokesperson for the GMF. The night of the pageant, the participants are score 10% for swimsuit; 20% for evening gown; 20% for two on-stage questions and 20% for over-all presentation as determined by the judges. Miss Congeniality is voted on by the contestants. Cash awards are given to all participants with the top three garnering the larg-

est awards including a \$500 shopping spree at The Loft in Hiwassee.

The 2009 pageant featured a new innovation to the annual contest. Thanks to the help from Mary Payne, Brette Allen and Daniel Nichols, the use of multimedia accentuated the "Night at the Oscars" pageant. As the contestants entered from the rear of the auditorium to the shouts and flashes of the paparazzi the crowd was treated to an on-stage dance routine and videos of the pageant activities as well as the farewell address by Kaylyn Hopper, the Miss GMF Queen from 2008. Additionally, the audience was treated to the singing of little Ryan Acree and the assistance of Little Miss Recreation, Carly Nicholson.

Participation in the pageant this year were Amber Allen, Sarah Swanson, Kayla Hyatt and Jessica Phillips from Towns County; Emilee Loudermilk for Habersham County; Holly Wright and Hannah Coffee, Union County and Miranda Carballo, Cherokee County, NC, Lacei Rogers, Clay County, NC. Contestants from the nine counties in or adjacent the national forest are eligible for participation. Winning the coveted crown this year was Miranda Carballo, a senior at Hiwassee Dam High School, 1st Runner-up, Jessica Phillips a graduate of Young Harris College and UGA student; 2nd Runner-up, Holly Wright a Tri-County and North Georgia Tech registered RN. Lacei Rogers, a Tri-County CNA graduate took the award for the separate talent partici-



Miss GMF contestants ride the pageant float in the annual parade.



Queen, Miranda Carballo traditionally eats the smoked trout at the fair.



Talent winner Lacei Rogers receives her award from Little Miss Rec, Carly Nicholson.



Singer, Ryan Acree and Little Miss Recreation, Carly Nicholson.



Miranda Carballo is shown blacksmithing by Harland the blacksmith.



Top three winners: Jessica Phillips, Carballo & Holly Wright.

The Great Outdoors by Jim Bryant

Incredible edibles for kids

THE HOBO STOVE

The tin can or "Hobo" stove is a neat way to give pleasure and innovation to outdoor cooking. Kids love to make their own stove before the trip and when the trip is over you can clean or simply discard the stove. Heat is conducted to the top of the can where it can be used for frying, boiling or baking. Because of the limited space, it is recommended that it be a one person stove so make one for each of the kids.

Construction of the Hobo stove is very simple. Take a #10 can (one gallon) and cut a small door about 3"x4" on the side of the can at the open end, leaving the door attached. At the top of the can (the closed end) punch four or five smoke holes with a beer opener, evenly around the side. You may now cook directly on the top of the can or better still, cover with aluminum foil to cook on to make clean-up easier.

Three heat sources may be utilized for the Hobo stove. A small wood fire, a Buddy Burner or a Sterno can.

1. A small wood fire under the can on hot charcoal from a bigger fire. This small fire can be adjusted easily by adding or removing sticks as needed.

2. A Buddy Burner, which is a tuna can filled with this typ corrugated cardboard

and fill with melted paraffin wax and a string wick. The burner can be moved further in or further out to adjust the heat as needed. To make the Buddy Burner, cut strips of corrugated cardboard into cross-wise strips which are the same height of the tuna can. Roll the cardboard tightly into the can. Next, pour melted wax over the cardboard letting it soak into the can. HEAT THE WAX IN A DOBLE BOILER BECAUSE IF IT GETS VERHEATED, IT WILL BURST INTO FLAMES. The cardboard in the can serves as type of wick and the wax as a candle and the small wick will help to get it started quickly. Tilting the can slightly will also help the flame spread across the burner surface. When filled with wax, the burner will burn for up to two hours. The burner can be utilized indefinitely by replenishing it with wax, because the wax burns at a lower temperature than the cardboard extending the life of the cardboard. Be sure to allow time for the Hobo stove and Buddy Burner to cool before packing it up.

3. A Sterno can. Sterno can be purchased at most camp supply stores or restaurant supply stores. The Sterno can be removed further in or out to adjust the heat as needed. The stove gets exceptionally hot with this typ heat source so be very careful!



Pageant participants, (F) Emilee Loudermilk, Hannah Coffee, Miranda Carballo, Sarah Swanson, Kayla Hyatt and Amber Allen. (R) Jessica Phillips, Lacei Rogers and Holly Wright.

Photos by Jim/Lisa Bryant

Towns County Herald

Local sports and racing covered by

Lowell Nicholson

Charles Duncan

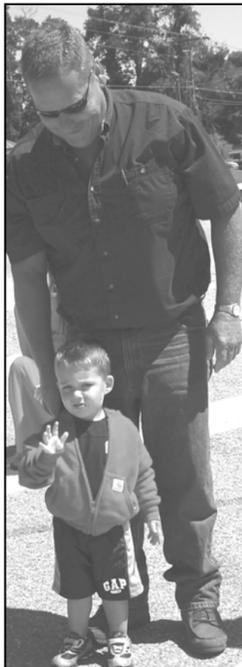
Jim & Lisa Bryant

Jerry Kendall

and Carl Vanzura



More pics of the Georgia Mtn Fair Parade



Photos by Lowell Nicholson

GMF photo exhibit hosts 38 photographers



JIM BRYANT

Sports Writer

The Georgia Mountain Fair photography exhibit just keeps on getting bigger. This year so thirty-eight photographers exhibited their photo ranging from vistas to vacations. According to Director, Clara Franklin the numbers of exhibitors and the quality of the photography has continued to grow and improve. With pho-

tography moving rapidly into the digital age, almost everyone has and camera and without the cost of film and development, thousands of photos are being taken each year. At to that, the computer enhancement, corrections and creativity of Adobe Photoshop and photography has become a hobby for young and old alike. The GMF photography exhibit demonstrated just that.

This year the grand prize was awarded by a panel of

judges to Marsha Miller for her photo of green bottles in a backlit window. Throughout the exhibit, five place ribbons were awarded in addition to honorable mention.

Cash awards were received for placing in the top five positions. The Towns County Herald was happy to announce that three of their reporters took a total of six ribbons. Jim Bryant took three, Lisa Bryant took two and Dave Seckinger garnered one.



Photos at the GMF Photo Exhibit

Photos by Jim/Lisa Bryant